A project has commenced for providing alternate media like Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) for some existing wireless links of Defence to release spectrum in the relevant frequency bands for mobile services.

(d) and (e) GSM cellular operators have been instructed to deploy various spectrum optimization techniques.

Increasing production of underground coal mines

†*331. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to give economic incentives to increase the production of underground coal mines in the country;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in order to give these incentives, there is a proposal to levy cess on production of surface coal mines; and

(d) if so, the comprehensive details of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited are aiming at increasing the coal production from underground mines by opening new mines with mass production technology and increased production from existing mines through mechanization wherever feasible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Unclaimed passports found in Ghaziabad

†*332. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in May, 2007 in Ghaziabad district of Uttar Pradesh, more than 100 unclaimed passports were found scattered on the ground and more than 600 passports were found buried under the ground;

(b) whether his Ministry have conducted any inquiry into the entire matter;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of people arrested, so far in this case and the action taken against them?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) While there were no unclaimed passports scattered on the ground, 685 passport booklet covers were found buried under the ground in Ghaziabad district on 15th May, 2007.

(b) to (d) A case was registered by the local police. It was found that all the booklet covers belonged to passports that were earlier cancelled due to errors during preparation. These passport booklet covers were included among other old records that were auctioned for recycling. There was no possibility of misuse of the covers as these had been defaced by cutting their corners, as per normal practice, at the time of cancellation of the passport booklets in question.

Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana

†*333. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for the years 2006-07 and 2007-08 in the country;

(b) to what extent the target thereof has been achieved; and

(c) the number of people who have been benefited in Haryana and Punjab under this Yojana, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Central allocation for the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) during 2006-07 and 2007-08 is Rs. 250.00 crore and Rs.344.00 crore respectively.

(b) During the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-03 to 2006-07), under the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), a target of assisting 4 Lakh urban poor in setting up individual/group enterprises for self employment and imparting skill training to 5 lakh urban poor was fixed. As per the Progress Reports received up to 31.7.2007, from the States/Union Territories, total 5,00,524 urban poor have been assisted in setting up individual/group micro enterprises for self employment and 6,38,274 urban poor have been imparted skill training in various trades under SJSRY during the Tenth Five Year Plan. Thus the targets under SJSRY during the Tenth Five Year Plan have been fully achieved.

(c) As per the reports received from State Governments, the cumulative number of beneficiaries in the States of Haryana and Punjab, under Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) since 1.12.1997 and as reported upto 31.7.2007, is as under:—

	Punjab	Haryana
1	2	3
Number of urban poor assisted to set up individual/group enterprises for self employment	8786	28557

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.